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TRANSMITTAL FORM *(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)*		
	Application Number	09/500,439
	Filing Date	2/9/2000
	First Named Inventor	Ruvolo, Joann
	Art Unit	3625
	Examiner Name	Matthew Gart
Total Number of Pages in This Submission **23**	Attorney Docket Number	AM9-99-0133

ENCLOSURES *(Check all that apply)*

[X] Fee Transmittal Form	[ ] Drawing(s)	[ ] After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)
[ ] Fee Attached	[ ] Licensing-related Papers	[ ] Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
[ ] Amendment / Reply	[ ] Petition	[X] Appeal Communication to TC **(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)**
[ ] After Final	[ ] Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	[ ] Proprietary Information
[ ] Affidavits/declaration(s)	[ ] Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	[ ] Status Letter
[ ] Extension of Time Request	[ ] Terminal Disclaimer	[ ] Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
[ ] Express Abandonment Request	[ ] Request for Refund	
[ ] Information Disclosure Statement	[ ] CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
[ ] Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Remarks	
[ ] Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application		
[ ] Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Ramraj Soundararajan
Signature	*Ramraj Soundararaja*
Date	November 1, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

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FEE TRANSMITTAL
for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☐ Applicant Claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT ($) 340.00

Complete if Known	
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Art Unit	3625
Attorney Docket No.	AM9-99-0133

METHOD OF PAYMENT *(check all that apply)*

☐ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None

☒ Deposit Account

Deposit Account Number: **09-0441**

Deposit Account Name: **IBM CORPORATION**

The Director is authorized to: *(check all that apply)*
☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Credit any overpayments
☐ Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)
☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, **except for the filing fee**
to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code	Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee Code	Fee ($)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	790	2001	395	Utility filing fee	
1002	350	2002	175	Design filing fee	
1003	550	2003	275	Plant filing fee	
1004	790	2004	395	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) ($) 0

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
Total Claims	-20**=	X =	
Independent Claims	-3**=	X =	
Multiple Dependent		=	

Large Entity Fee Code	Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee Code	Fee ($)	Fee Description
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	88	2201	44	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	300	2203	150	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	88	2204	44	**Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	**Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) ($)0

** or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code	Fee ($)	Small Entity Fee Code	Fee ($)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge – late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge – late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for *ex parte* reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	430	2252	215	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	980	2253	490	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,530	2254	765	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,080	2255	1,040	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	340	2401	170	Notice of Appeal	
1402	340	2402	170	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	340
1403	300	2403	150	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive – unavoidable	
1453	1,370	2453	685	Petition to revive – unintentional	
1501	1,370	2501	685	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	490	2502	245	Design issue fee	
1503	660	2503	330	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806	180	1806	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	790	2809	395	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810	790	2810	395	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801	790	2801	395	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) ($)340

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	Ramraj Soundararajan	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	53832	Telephone	(703) 838-7683
Signature	*Ramraj Soundararaja*			Date	11/1/2004

Complete (if applicable)

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPEAL BRIEF – 37 C.F.R § 1.192

U.S. Patent Application 09/500,439 entitled,

"SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR RENEWING BUSINESS, PROFESSIONAL AND
PERSONAL CONTACTS"

Real Party in Interest: International Business Machines Corporation

11/02/2004 NGEBREM1 00000016 090441   09500439
01 FC:1402   340.00 DA

Related Appeals and Interferences:

None

Status of Claims:

Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-26 and 28-37 are pending.

Claims 3, 16 and 27 are cancelled.

Claims 1, 2, 4-15, 17-26 and 28-37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kennedy (USP 5,831,611) in view of Xcontact.

Status of Amendments:

No amendments were filed subsequent to the final office action of 07/02/2004.

Summary of Claimed Subject Matter:

(NOTE: All citations are made from the original specification, including the figures.)

The present invention provides for a computer-based method *(figure 2)* of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, wherein the method comprises the steps of: (a) retaining user preferences *(page 7, lines 5-7)*, wherein said user preferences (that can be either set as default or by the user *(page 8, line 20)*) comprise any of, or a combination of: professional or personal contacts, preference on initiating the searching step, time-based references, select algorithms, or maximum number of candidates to select; (b) retaining a list of possible contacts *(page 8, line 7)*, said list comprising at least identifying information and available images of said contacts; (c) automatically initiating searching said list of possible contacts to select at least one potential contact based on said user preferences *(figure 2, element 210)*; (d) retaining said at least one potential contact selected during said search *(figure 2, element 214)*; and (e) displaying to the user an available image or other identifying information of said at least one potential contact *(figure 2, element 214)* identified during said automatic searching to automatically remind the user to stay in touch with said at least one potential contact.

The present invention also provides for a computer-based system *(figure 1)* for dynamically selecting possible contacts, said system comprising: (a) user preferences *(figure 1,*

element 102) stored in computer storage, wherein said user preferences comprise any of, or a combination of: professional or personal contacts, preference on initiating the searching step, time-based references, select algorithms, or maximum number of candidates to select; (b) a contact list *(figure 1, element 104)* stored in computer storage, said contact list comprising at least identifying information and available images of said contacts; (c) a manual request unit *(figure 1, element 108)*; (d) a time-based request unit providing an invocation for time-based automatic initiation of searching *(figure 1, element 110)*; (e) a display module *(figure 1, element 116)*; (f) a search module *(figure 1, element 114)*, said search module determining the candidates to be selected; (g) a request processor *(figure 1, element 112)*, said processor detecting an invocation output from said manual request unit or said time-based request unit and initiating said search module to select at least one potential candidate, and wherein said at least one potential candidate selected *(figure 1, element 106)* by said search module is stored in computer storage and processed to automatically remind a user to keep in communication with said at least one possible contacts by displaying, via said display module, said potential candidate's image or other identifying information.

Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal:

1.   Was a proper rejection made with respect to claims 1-2, 4-15, 17-26, and 28-37 under 35 U.S. C. § 103(a) using existing USPTO guidelines?

ARGUMENT:

1. Was a proper rejection made with respect to claims 1-2, 4-15, 17-26, and 28-37 under 35 U.S. C. § 103(a) using existing USPTO guidelines?

Prior to issuing the office action of the 07/02/2004, Examiner Matthew S. Gart contacted the applicants' representative, Mr. Ramraj Soundararajan, to discuss the claims of the pending application. Applicants were very appreciative for the opportunity to discuss the claims in view of the cited art. During the telephone conversation, applicants' representative and examiner Gart discussed potential claim language that clarified applicants' invention and examiner Gart encouraged applicants representative to file an amendment based on the interview and specifically stated that he would encourage another in-person interview to discuss any further issues with respect to the pending claims. On 07/02/2004, applicants received yet another Final Office Action rejecting all claims. The applicants' representative contacted examiner Gart for an in-person interview and was denied an interview as it was after-final.

The examiner has rejected claims 1-2, 4-15, 17-26, and 28-37 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kennedy (U.S. patent 5,831,611) in view of Xcontact (PTO-892, Ref U). To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness under U.S.C. § 103, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Additionally, the teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant's disclosure (In re Vaeck, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991)). Applicants contend, as will be shown, that the Kennedy reference (5,831,611) in view of the Xcontact reference fails to provide for many of the limitations of the rejected claims.

The applicants' invention provides for a dynamic system and method for renewing business, professional, and personal contacts wherein the invention overcomes time and

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psychological hindrances to maintaining relationships by automatically selecting whom a user should keep in touch with and by automatically displaying this selection to the user. The system automatically searches a contact list for candidates based on predetermined user preferences and a time-based algorithm (e.g., contact each week, month, 2 weeks after a meeting, etc.). Selected candidates are collected and images transferred to a display module to build a "keep in touch" section to be displayed to the user.

Kennedy

Kennedy et al. provides for a process management system for creating and executing graphically depicted communication process. The process management system applies a communication protocol to a set of database entries representing business contacts in order to generate and execute a set of scheduled events. The process management system includes a graphical process editor facilitating the creation of communication process on a graphical user interface. The graphically depicted communication process visually represents to a process programmer the relationships between the events comprising the communication process. A process manager executes a set of events comprising both scheduled events and control events corresponding to the graphically displayed events.

XContact

Xcontact is a shareware program commensurate with well known address book systems, such as Microsoft Outlook™. Xcontact provides the user a way to first enter, then look-up contact information. However, Xcontact does not, either explicitly or implicitly, teach or suggest a system or method for using the contact information stored within to intelligently and automatically remind the user to keep in communication with specific contacts over time, based on pre-stored preferences.

With respect to claims 1, 14, and 26, the examiner contends that the Kennedy reference discloses a computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user. The examiner specifically cites column 1, lines 26-37 of the Kennedy reference as providing support for the step of "retaining preferences" wherein the preferences comprise any

of, or a combination of: professional or personal contacts, preference on initiating the searching step, time-based references, select algorithms, or maximum number of candidates to select. A closer reading of the citations and the Kennedy reference in its entirety, however, teaches otherwise. Specifically, applicants contend that the citations merely mention the ability of businesses to store "business contacts in databases". The citations further mention the ability to "retrieve specific portions·of the database according to complex search and sort algorithms". Applicants contend that the citations merely suggest storing business contacts, whereas the present invention's claim 1 teaches storing the type of contact (professional or personal), the time-based frequency of contact in an automatic invocation, the type of selection algorithm, etc. (see page 7, lines 7+). Thus, it can be clearly seen that the Kennedy reference does not fall in line with "preferences" as required by applicants' specification and claims.

The examiner further states that column 1, lines 49-59 of the Kennedy reference teaches the limitation of "automatically initiating searching said list of possible contacts to select at least one potential contact based on said user preferences". A closer reading of the citations and the Kennedy reference in its entirety merely suggests that prior art contact management systems are able to provide "automatic follow-up reminders" for "future appointments". A prior art system that provides such "automatic follow-up reminders" is the previously described Microsoft Outlook™ software. For example, users are able to manually set up meeting reminders for future appointments, wherein software, such as Microsoft Outlook™, can be set to remind the user of an upcoming event.

Hence, software described in the 'Background' section of the Kennedy reference requires the entry of calendar events by users, wherein the software uses such previously created entries to remind the user prior to the occurrence of such calendar events. For example, when a user creates a calendar entry in Microsoft Outlook™ for a meeting with person 'X', he/she enters a date and time when the meeting is to take place. Prior art calendaring software such as Microsoft Outlook™ also gives a user the option to set a reminder period. For example, users are able to instruct the software to remind them of an upcoming (future) event within 15 minutes of when it is supposed to occur.

Such calendaring software as described in the 'Background' section of the Kennedy reference are representative of the prior art with respect to applicants claimed invention, as such prior art software systems require users to "enter various scheduled activities" for which the prior art calendaring software generates "automatic follow-up reminders" (see column 1, line 49-54). Applicants, hence, contend that there is a one-on-one relationship between a calendar entry created for an event and the reminder generated for the event. By stark contrast, the present invention's system does not require such a appointment entry to be created for generating a reminder as it automatically searches through a list of contacts (based on retained user preferences) that a user has not stayed in touch with and automatically generates a reminder along with an available image of a potential contact reminding the user to stay in touch with the potential contact. Additionally, claims 1, 14, and 26 of the present invention teaches the selection of a potential contact based on user preferences (previously described). There is no teaching in the citations for a system that reminds users to keep in touch with contacts based on user preferences. Applicants contend that the examiner has erroneously equated the prior art software systems described in the 'Background' section of the Kennedy reference to provide for the limitation of automatically initiating searching the list of possible contacts to select at least one potential contact based on the user preferences.

Regarding the limitation of retaining a list of possible contacts, wherein the list comprises at least identifying information and available images of the contacts, applicants agree with the examiner that the Kennedy reference does not disclose retaining images of a contact. However, applicants contend that since the examiner has failed to make a *prima facie* case with respect to many of the above-mentioned limitations of claim 1, it would be moot to argue that the Kennedy reference in combination with the XCONTACT reference would have provided for automatically reminding the user with images of potential contacts that he/she has not been in touch with.

Hence, with respect to claims 1, 14, and 26, applicants contend that the examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as the Kennedy reference fails to teach or suggest the claim limitation of a system that automatically searches

through a list of contacts, based on retained user preferences, that a user has not stayed in touch with and automatically generates a reminder along with an available image of a potential contact reminding the user to stay in touch with the potential contact.

With respect to claims 2 and 15, the examiner states that the Kennedy reference provides for the limitation of retaining user preferences that are either input by the user or preselected as defaults. As support for his arguments, the examiner once again cites column 1, lines 27-59 of the 'Background' section of the Kennedy reference. As mentioned earlier, Kennedy does not disclose preferences that are used in "automatically initiating searching" a list of possible contacts to select at least one potential contact. Hence, applicants contend it would be moot to argue that Kennedy provides for setting such preferences either by default or based on inputs by the user. Hence, with respect to claims 2 and 15, applicants contend that the examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as the Kennedy reference fails to teach or suggest the setting of such preferences either by default or based on inputs by the user.

With respect to claims 4, 17, and 28, applicants contend that the arguments for independent claims 1, 14, and 26 substantially apply to corresponding dependent claims 4, 17, and 28.

With respect to claims 5, 19, and 29, the examiner contends that the Kennedy reference provides for the limitation of initiating the automatic searching step (of applicants' claim1) by the time-based reference. As support for his assertion, the examiner cites column 2, lines 13-58 of the Kennedy reference. As applicants have shown earlier, the Kennedy reference fails to teach or suggest the automatic searching step of claims 1, 14, and 26. Applicants contend that the citations merely teach a system that contacts "potential contacts" (i.e., contacts that could be potential customers) and follows up on "initial contacts" (like Microsoft Outlook™). Applicants also contend that a closer reading of the citations merely suggests a business communications management system outlined earlier with no mention or suggestion of using a time-based reference preference (e.g. contact each week, month, 2 weeks after a meeting, etc.) that is used to

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automatically initiate a search for a potential contact and automatically remind a user to keep in touch with the potential contact. Hence, applicants contend that the examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as the Kennedy reference fails to teach or suggest the step of automatically initiating the searching step of applicants claims 1, 14, and 26 by a time-based reference.

With respect to claim 6, applicants wish to note that there is typographical error with respect to claim 6 as it should depend on claim 5. Applicants contend that the arguments for independent claim 1 and dependent claim 5 substantially apply to dependent claims 6 and 7 as they depend on claim 5 (which in turn depends on independent claim 1). Similarly, applicants contend that the arguments for independent claims 14 and 26 substantially apply to dependent claims 18 and 30 as they inherit the limitations of the claim from which they depend.

With respect to claims 8, 20, and 32, the examiner contends that the Kennedy reference provides for the limitation of selecting a potential contact in the search step of claims 1, 14, and 26 in either a random fashion or based on a select algorithm. The examiner once again cites the 'Background' section of the Kennedy reference as providing such a limitation. However, applicants contend that the Kennedy reference merely provides for a business contact communication process and fails to teach or suggest a method for dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user based on automatically searching a list of possible contacts and identifying potential candidates, wherein the selection of potential candidates is either randomly done or is based on a select algorithm. Hence, applicants contend that the examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as the Kennedy reference fails to teach or suggest the step of selecting a potential contact in the search step of claims 1, 14, and 26 in either a random fashion or based on a select algorithm.

With respect to claims 9, 21, and 33, the examiner contends that the Kennedy reference provides for the limitation of repeating the searching step of applicant's claims 1, 14, and 26, until the maximum number of candidates for selection (another limitation of claim 1, 14, and 26) has been achieved. The examiner cites figure 15 of the Kennedy reference as providing support

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for this limitation. Figure 15, however, merely teaches a flowchart summarizing the steps executed by the process editor when "a programmer is creating a graphically depicted communication process". Applicants contend that figure 15 and the corresponding description fails to teach or suggest a system that iteratively and automatically searches a list of possible contacts to select the maximum number of potential contacts based on user preferences. Hence, applicants contend that the examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as the Kennedy reference fails to teach or suggest the step of repeating the searching step of applicant's claims 1, 14, and 26 until the maximum number of candidates for selection (another limitation of claims 1, 14 and 26) have been achieved.

With respect to claims 10-11, 22-23, and 34-35, applicants contend that since the examiner has failed to make a *prima facie* case with respect to the limitations of claims 1, 14, and 26, it would be moot to argue that the Kennedy reference in combination with the Xcontact reference would have provided for a method for dynamically and visually presenting potential contacts (via displaying an image and associated information about a potential contact) to automatically remind the user to stay in touch with the potential contact(s). Hence, applicants contend that the examiner has failed to establish a *prima facie* case for obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) with respect to claims 10-11, 22-23, and 34-35.
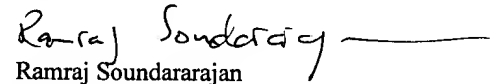
With respect to claims 12 and 13, applicants contend that the arguments for claim 1 substantially apply as claims 12 and 13 depend on claim 1, thereby inheriting all the limitations of claim 1. Similarly, arguments for independent claims 14 and 26 substantially apply for dependent claims 24-25 and 36-37 respectively.

SUMMARY

As has been detailed above, none of the references, cited or applied, provide for the specific claimed details of applicant's presently claimed invention, nor render them obvious. It is believed that this case is in condition for allowance and reconsideration thereof and early issuance is respectfully requested.

As this Appeal Brief has been timely filed within the set period of response, no petition for extension of time or associated fee is required. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the fees provided, to include an extension of time, to Deposit Account No. 09-0441.

Respectfully submitted by
Applicant's Representative,

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Claims Appendix:

1.   A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user comprising the following steps:

retaining user preferences, wherein said user preferences comprise any of, or a combination of: professional or personal contacts, preference on initiating the searching step, time-based references, select algorithms, or maximum number of candidates to select;

retaining a list of possible contacts, said list comprising at least identifying information and available images of said contacts;

automatically initiating searching said list of possible contacts to select at least one potential contact based on said user preferences,

retaining said at least one potential contact selected during said search, and

displaying to the user an available image or other identifying information of said at least one potential contact identified during said automatic searching to automatically remind the user to stay in touch with said at least one potential contact.

2.   A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claim 1, wherein said user preferences comprise either preferences input by the user or pre-selected default preferences.

3. (Cancelled)

4.   A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claim 1, wherein said list of contacts further comprises any of: name, organization, work address, home address, telephone numbers, pager numbers, cellular numbers, e-mail address, personal or professional identifiers, special dates, and contact dates.

5.   A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claim 1, wherein said automatic searching step is initiated automatically by said time-based reference.

6.   A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claims 3, wherein said time-based references comprise any of: frequency of contact, time between contacts, or calendar-based contact.

7.   A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claim 5, wherein said automatic initiation of said searching step comprises: comparing applicable time-based references stored in said user preferences with a timer module, and upon a positive comparison, initiating said search step.

8.   A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claim 1, wherein said selection of a potential contact in said search step is either random or based on a select algorithm.

9.   A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claim 1, wherein said search step is repeated until said maximum number of candidates for selection has been achieved.

10.   A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claim 1, wherein said displaying step further comprises insertion of said available image or identifying information into a GUI.

11.   A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claim 10, wherein said GUI comprises an electronic organizer.

12.   A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per claim 1, wherein said method may be implemented locally or remotely on one or more computer-based systems, across networks or existing communication mediums.

13.   A computer-based method of dynamically presenting potential contacts to a user, as per

claim 12, wherein said across networks element comprises any of LANs, WANs, cellular,

Internet or Web-based networks.

14.   A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, said system

comprising:

user preferences stored in computer storage, wherein said user preferences

comprise any of, or a combination of: professional or personal contacts, preference on initiating

the searching step, time-based references, select algorithms, or maximum number of candidates

to select;

a contact list stored in computer storage, said contact list comprising at least

identifying information and available images of said contacts;

a manual request unit;

a time-based request unit providing an invocation for time-based automatic

initiation of searching;

a display module;

a search module, said search module determining the candidates to be selected;

a request processor, said processor detecting an invocation output from said

manual request unit or said time-based request unit and initiating said search module to select at

least one potential candidate, and

wherein said at least one potential candidate selected by said search module is

stored in computer storage and processed to automatically remind a user to keep in

communication with said at least one possible contacts by displaying, via said display module,

said potential candidate's image or other identifying information.

15.   A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, as per claim 14,

wherein said user preferences comprise either preferences input by the user or pre-selected

default preferences.

16. (Cancelled)

17. A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, as per claim 14, wherein said list of contacts further comprises any of: name, organization, work address, home address, telephone numbers, pager numbers, cellular numbers, e-mail address, personal or professional identifiers, special dates, and contact dates.

18. A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, as per claim 14, wherein said time-based references comprise any of: frequency of contact, time between contacts, or calendar-based contact.

19. A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, as per claim 16, wherein said automatic initiation of said selection by said search module comprises: comparing applicable time-based references stored in said user preferences with said timer module, and upon a positive comparison, initiating said search.

20. A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, as per claim 14, wherein selection of a possible contact is either random or based on a select algorithm.

21. A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, as per claim 14, wherein said one or more contacts are obtained by repeated execution of said search until said maximum number of candidates for selection has been achieved.

22. A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, as per claim 14, wherein said displaying further comprises insertion of said available image or identifying information into a GUI.

23. A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, as per claim 22, wherein said GUI comprises an electronic organizer.

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24.   A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, as per claim 14,

wherein said system may be implemented locally or remotely on one or more computer-based

systems, across networks or existing communication mediums.

25.   A computer-based system for dynamically selecting possible contacts, as per claim 24,

wherein said across networks element comprises any of LANs, WANs, cellular, Internet or Web-

based networks.

26.   An article of manufacture comprising a computer media product implementing a process

for selecting and presenting to a user possible candidates for contact comprising computer

programmable code implementing:

        retaining default or user selected preferences, wherein said user preferences

comprise any of: professional or personal contacts, preference on initiating the searching step,

time-based references, select algorithms, and maximum number of candidates to select;

        retrieving a list of possible contacts; said list comprising at least identifying

information and available images of said contacts;

        selecting a number of possible candidates to be presented;

        identifying a specific method of possible candidate selection;

        automatically initiating a search for one or more possible candidates based on said

user preferences, available candidates and method of selection, and

        wherein said one or more candidates identified based on said automatically

initiated search are presented visually to automatically remind the user to stay in contact with

said one or more identified contacts.

27. (Cancelled)

28.   An article of manufacture comprising a computer media product implementing a process

for selecting and presenting to a user possible candidates for contact, as per claim 26, wherein

said list of contacts further comprises any of: name, organization, work address, home address, telephone numbers, pager numbers, cellular numbers, e-mail address, personal or professional identifiers, special dates, and contact dates.

29.   An article of manufacture comprising a computer media product implementing a process for selecting and presenting to a user possible candidates for contact, as per claim 26, wherein said automatically initiating a search is based on a time-based reference in the user preferences.

30.   An article of manufacture comprising a computer media product implementing a process for selecting and presenting to a user possible candidates for contact, as per claim 29, wherein said time-based reference comprises any of: frequency of contact, time between contacts or calendar-based contact.

31.   An article of manufacture comprising a computer media product implementing a process for selecting and presenting to a user possible candidates for contact, as per claim 29, wherein said automatically initiating a search comprises: comparing applicable time-based references stored in said user preferences with a timer function, and upon a positive comparison, initiating said search.

32.   An article of manufacture comprising a computer media product implementing a process for selecting and presenting to a user possible candidates for contact, as per claim 26, wherein said selection of a possible contact in said search step is either random or based on a select algorithm.

33.   An article of manufacture comprising a computer media product implementing a process for selecting and presenting to a user possible candidates for contact, as per claim 26, wherein said search step is repeated until a maximum number of candidates for selection has been achieved.

34.   An article of manufacture comprising a computer media product implementing a process for selecting and presenting to a user possible candidates for contact, as per claim 26, wherein said presenting visually to the user step further comprises insertion of said available image or identifying information into a GUI.

35.   An article of manufacture comprising a computer media product implementing a process for selecting and presenting to a user possible candidates for contact, as per claim 34, wherein said GUI comprises an electronic organizer.

36.   An article of manufacture comprising a computer media product implementing a process for selecting and presenting to a user possible candidates for contact, as per claim 26, wherein said process may be implemented locally or remotely on one or more computer-based systems, across networks or existing communication mediums.

37.   An article of manufacture comprising a computer media product implementing a process for selecting and presenting to a user possible candidates for contact, as per claim 36, wherein said across networks element comprises any of LANs, WANs, cellular, Internet or Web-based networks.

Evidence Appendix

None

Related Proceedings Appendix

None